

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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P R 101435Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9444
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, RO

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTRY REORGANIZATION

1. SUMMARY. PART OF LONG-RUMORED STRUCTURAL REORGANIZATION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS ANNOUNCED EVENING MAY 9 VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO ACCREDITED MISSIONS HERE. PRINCIPAL FEATURES ARE CREATION OF FIVE GEOGRAPHIC BUREAUS TO REPLACE THREE PREVIOUS BUREAUS WHICH WERE ORGANIZED ON QUASI-FUNCTIONAL BASIS ("SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES, LDC'S, AND DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES). INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORATE HAS BEEN COMBINED WITH ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE, AND SPECIAL UNIT DEALING WITH CSCE AND BALKAN COOPERATION HAS APPARENTLY BEEN ABOLISHED. VALENTIN LIPATTI, ROMANIA'S TOP CSCE EXPERT AND

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DIRECTOR OF THAT SPECIAL UNIT, BECOMES HEAD OF CULTURE AND PRESS DIRECTORATE. UNITED STATES IS NOW GROUPED WITH CANADA AND LATIN AMERICAN IN DIRECTORATE FIVE HEADED BY FORMER AMBASSADOR TO U.S. CORNELIU BOGDAN. LEADERSHIP OF CONSULAR, PLANNING, PROTOCOL, AND INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND PERSONNEL ARE APPARENTLY UNCHANGED. SPECULATION CONTINUES THERE MAY BE REALIGN-

MENT OF FUNCTIONS AND PERSONNEL CHANGES AMONG DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTERS, POSSIBLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUB-
STANTIAL TURNOVER OF AMBASSADORIAL POSITIONS.
AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN INVITED TO CHIEFS-OF-MISSION
GREETING FOR FONMIN ANDREI AND MINISTRY LEADERSHIP
MAY 11. END SUMMARY.

2. GEOGRAPHIC BUREAUS ARE NOW ORGANIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. DIRECTORATE I - "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES

DIRECTOR - VASILE SANDRU

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - IONEL STANCIULESCU

SANDRU IS BALKAN EXPERT WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON
ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND A FORMER AMBASSADOR TO YUGO-
SLAVIA WHO HAS WORKED BOTH IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND IN
PARTY INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS STAFF. ASSIGNED TO
MINISTRY FROM PARTY STAFF IN EARLY 1977, HE HAS
HANDLED SUCH SPECIAL PROJECTS AS COORDINATING FOREIGN
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ROMANIA IN IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF
MARCH 4, 1977, EARTHQUAKE AND NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
ORDER. ACCORDING TO HIM, HE ALSO TURNED DOWN MADRID
POST LAST YEAR TO BE IN BUCHAREST FOR CHILDREN'S LAST
UNIVERSITY YEARS. HE REPLACES ION CIUBOTARU WHO
REPORTEDLY WILL GO TO PEKING AS DCM. WE HAVE NO INFORMA-
TION ON STANCIULESCU.

B. DIRECTORATE II - WEST EUROPE

DIRECTOR - ROMULUS NEAGU

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - IULIU DOBROIU

NEAGU HAS BEEN LONG-TIME DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, AN EXPERT ON UN SYSTEM, AND PEREN-
NIAL ANCHOR-MAN OF ROMANIAN UNGA DELEGATION. HE SERVED
SEVERAL YEARS IN ROMANIA'S UN MISSION. DOBROIU
HAD BEEN DIRECTOR FOR DEVELOPED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES
(INCLUDING U.S.) UNDER OLD SET-UP AND IS SEASONED
COMMUNIQUE/Joint DECLARATION NEGOTIATOR (MOST RECENTLY
WITH FRG AND U.S.). PRESENT JOB REPRESENTS A CLEAR
DEMOTION BOTH IN STATUS AND RESPONSIBILITY, THOUGH
NOT PERHAPS LARGE ONE, GIVEN IMPORTANCE GOR ATTACHES
TO WE RELATIONS. DOBROIU MAY HAVE CHOSEN TO REMAIN
IN BUCHAREST BECAUSE OF SOME SCHOOLING PROBLEMS HIS
CHILDREN HAVE FACED AFTER GROWING UP IN GERMAN-SPEAKING
COUNTRIES.

C. DIRECTORATE III - AFRICA

DIRECTOR - PETRE TANASIE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - BOGDAN BALTAZAR

TANASIE RECENTLY COMPLETED A TOUR AS AMBASSADOR TO
INDIA AND SRI LANKA (RESIDENT IN NEW DELHI). HE HAS
HELD A NUMBER OF DIPLOMATIC POSTS, INCLUDING PRAGUE
IN EARLY 1960'S. BALTAZAR SPENT MANY YEARS IN NEW

YORK ASSIGNED TO ROMANIAN UN MISSION, WENT TO MANILA IN 1975 AS CHARGE TO OPEN A NEW EMBASSY WHERE HE PROCEEDED TO ALIENATE NEARLY ALL FILIPINOS WITH WHOM HE HAD CONTACT (ACCORDING TO PHILIPPINE EMBASSY CONTACTS HERE), AND RETURNED TO BUCHAREST IN SOME DISGRACE SUMMER 1976. NOTED FOR HAVING A KEEN MIND AND SHARP WIT, THIS APPOINTMENT PRESUMABLY SIGNIFIES HIS RESTORATION TO A STATE OF GRACE.

D. DIRECTORATE IV - ASIA, MIDDLE EAST, EGYPT, OCEANIA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND

DIRECTOR - MARCEL DINU

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - ANTON SARBU

DINU WAS FORMERLY HEAD OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR ALL LESS DEVELOPED (NON-COMMUNIST) COUNTRIES, AN ARRANGEMENT
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EVERYONE ADMITTED WAS UNWIELDY (AS DOBROIU'S HAD BEEN, WITH ALL "DEVELOPED COUNTRIES"). HIS RETENTION OF KEY MIDDLE EAST COMPONENT AND ADDITION OF SUCH COUNTRIES AS

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JAPAN, WHILE DROPPING LESS IMPORTANT AREAS OF AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA, WILL ALLOW THIS EXTREMELY CAPABLE DIPLOMAT TO FOCUS HIS EFFORTS BETTER. SARBU HAS BEEN DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL UNTIL THIS CHANGE, A POSITION IN WHICH WHATEVER SUBSTANTIVE ABILITIES HE POSSESSES WERE NOT BEST DISPLAYED.

E. DIRECTORATE V - UNITED STATES, CANADA, MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA

DIRECTOR - CORNELIU BOGDAN

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - NICOLAE TURTUREA

BOGDAN HAS BEEN COOLING HIS HEELS DOING ODD JOBS IN THE MINISTRY SINCE HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON IN LATE 1976, PROBABLY BECAUSE BOTH HIS STEPDAUGHTERS HAD FALLEN IN LOVE WITH WESTERNERS (ONE AMERICAN, THE OTHER CANADIAN). THIS APPOINTMENT APPARENTLY SIGNIFIES HIS COMPLETE

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"REHABILITATION;" DEPENDING UPON ANY REALIGNMENT OF DEPUTY MINSTERS, IT MAY ALSO MEAN THAT HE WILL BE OUR PRINCIPAL POINT OF FORMAL CONTACT WITH GOR ABOVE THE DESK WORKING LEVEL. TURTUREA IS A LATIN AMERICAN AREA SPECIALIST WHO HANDLED THAT AREA IN DINU'S FORMER LDC DIRECTORATE AND WILL PRESUMABLY TO THE SAME UNDER BOGDAN.

3. ECONOMIC AND INTERNATION ORGANIZATION DIRECTORATES HAVE BEEN COMBINED, A LOGICAL MOVE SINCE FORMER COVERED SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS UNCTAD AND GROUP OF 77, WHILE LATTER COVERED MOST OF OTHER MULTILATERAL TOPICS INCLUDING DISARMAMENT AND LOS. NEW DIRECTOR IS CONSTANTIN FLITAN, MOST RECENTLY AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE; DEPUTY DIRECTOR IS TRAIAN CHEREBELEU, FORMERLY SENIOR STAFF AIDE TO EX-FONMIN MACOVESCU.

4. INSTEAD OF BOGDAN (LONG TOUTED FOR SLOT IN DIPLOMATIC RUMOR MILL), NEW DIRECTOR OF CULTURE AND PRESS DIRECTORATE IS VALENTIN LIPATTI, ROMANIA'S CSCE EXPERT, LEADER OF GOR DELEGATION TO BELGRADE CONFERENCE, AND HEAD OF SPECIAL MFA UNIT ON CSCE AND BALKAN AFFAIRS WHICH MAY NOW HAVE BEEN DISBANDED. LIPATTI WILL APPARENTLY KEEP HIS POST AS AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO SINCE MFA RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT ORGANIZATION IS IN CULTURE AND PRESS DIRECTORATE. HE REPLACES DUMITRU TRANCA WHO REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN ANGLING FOR A FOREIGN ASSIGNMENT. NO DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED.

5. NO PERSONNEL OR FUNCTIONAL CHANGES IN DEPUTY

MINISTERS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED, BUT RUMORS ARE RIFE.

6. COMMENT. THESE CHANGES COINCIDE WITH A SUBSTANTIAL
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TURNOVER OF AMBASSADORIAL POSITIONS, SO IT WOULD BE LOGICAL TO EXPECT SOME OF THE PERSONS DISPLACED IN THIS REORGANIZATION TO BE REASSIGNED ABROAD. OUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF NEW TEAM IS FAVORABLE. FURTHER, TO EXTENT THEY BEAR FONMIN ANDREI'S MARK, THEY SHOW HIM CALLING ON SOME OF MINISTRY'S BEST TALEN IN HIS NEW JOB. HOWEVER, PROOF WILL BE ITS ACTUAL OPERATION AS WELL AS ANY CHANGES AT MFA'S DEPUTY MINISTER LEVEL. AMBASSADOR MAY LEARN MORE AT MAY "CHIEFS-OF-MISSION" MEETING TO GREET ANDREI AND MFA "LEADERSHIP."

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